GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:532
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
LOSSES TO BANKS DUE TO EARTHQUAKE IN GUJARAT
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent devastating earthquake has caused a great loss to various Banks in Gujarat ;

(b) if so, whether crores of rupees were buried under the rubble in various banks;

(c) if so, the amount that has been estimated to have been buried in rubbles; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to locate this money ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL)

(a) to (d) : Dena Bank, the Convenor of State Level Banker`s Committee for the State of Gujarat has informed that out of a total 4945 bank branches operating in the Gujarat State, 68 branches were totally damaged and 80 branches were partially damaged due to earthquake. However, all these 4945 branches have since started functioning. As per the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India, 5 bank branches having currency chests in the State of Gujarat were affected by the earthquake. A total balance of Rs.97.16 crores was held in these chests. It is also reported that the local authorities have taken all necessary precautions to safeguard the treasure in the affected currency chests. No loss of funds from currency chests have been reported so far.